

REMARKS

Claims 3, 27, 28, 30 and 33-36 are presented for consideration, with Claims 3, 30 and 35 being independent.

The independent claims have been amended to further distinguish Applicant's invention from the cited art. Claims 4, 29, 31, 32, 37 and 38 have been cancelled.

Claims 3, 4 and 27-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being obvious over Jones '777 in view of Anandan '115. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 3 of Applicant's invention relates to an image display apparatus comprised of a hermetic container including, as constructive members, a first substrate and a second substrate opposite to each other, with an electrode having a specified electric potential, and an external frame disposed between the first substrate and the second substrate. As amended, the electrode is disposed on the second substrate and located outside of the hermetic container. In addition, image display means and wiring for displaying is disposed within the hermetic container, and a conductive bonding seals the first substrate and the external frame. As further amended, the bonding member extends outside of the hermetic container, from a sealing area between the first substrate and the external frame to the electrode to be in contact with the electrode.

Claim 30 relates to an image display apparatus that includes a hermetic container, image display means and a conductive bonding member. Similar to Claim 3, Claim 30 has been amended to recite that an electrode is disposed on a second substrate and located outside of the hermetic container, and the conductive bonding member extends outside of the

hermetic container from a sealing area between a first substrate and an external frame to the electrode to come in contact with the electrode.

In Claim 35, an image display apparatus is comprised of first and second substrates, an external frame, and a conductive bonding member. As amended, Claim 35 recites that the electrode is located outside of the external frame, and the conductive bonding member extends outside of the external frame from an area between the first substrate and the external frame to the electrode to be in contact with the electrode.

Support for the amendments to the claims can be found, for example, on page 15, line 22, *et. seq.*, of the specification.

The primary citation to Jones is directed to a field emission display spacer having top and bottom substrates 310, 110 supported by a spacer structure 200, and a conductive element 120 disposed on the bottom substrate. The spacer structure includes a conductive member 250 provided between insulative members 212 and 214. Upper frit glass 220 and lower frit glass 230 are provided on either end of the spacer structure. The Office Action acknowledges that Jones does not provide a bonding member extending from a sealing area between the first substrate and an external frame to the electrode to be in contact with the electrode.

The secondary citation to Anandan was cited to compensate for the deficiency in Jones. In Anandan, a lamp 100 includes a flat rear substrate 1, a flat front substrate 2 and a dielectric seal 14 separating the substrates. Components of the lamp include conductors 21-30 on the front substrate and conductors 31-40 on the rear substrate. The Office Action asserts that conductors 11-20 are analogous to Applicant's claimed conductive bonding member and extend

from the sealing area between the first substrate to and an external frame 4' to be in contact with electrodes 21-30.

Without conceding the propriety of combining Jones and Anandan in the manner proposed in the Office Action, it is submitted that such a combination still fails to teach or suggest Applicant's claimed invention. For example, the proposed combination fails to teach or suggest, among other features, an electrode disposed on a substrate and located outside of the hermetic container or external frame and in contact with a bonding member extending outside of the hermetic container or external frame. What is more, with respect to Claims 3 and 30, it is submitted that Anandan fails to even teach or suggest providing a conductive member extending outside of a hermetic container as asserted in the Office Action. As understood, Anandan shows in Figure 1 that a dielectric seal 4 and silver 6 are required to form the vacuum tight seal (see column 3, lines 54-57), and no components extend outside of such a seal.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103 is respectfully requested.

Therefore, it is submitted that Applicant's invention as set forth in independent Claims 3, 30 and 35 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 27, 28, 33, 34 and 36 set forth additional features of Applicant's invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

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Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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